

ORIGINAL

FCC CC Docket No. 96-45  
Section 254(e), 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Certification of  
Ben Lomand Rural Telephone  
Cooperative, Inc.

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## AFFIDAVIT

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I, Levoy Knowles, CEO of Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the "Company") do hereby certify under penalties of perjury that:

1. I am the CEO of the Company;
2. The Company is not subject to the jurisdiction of a state;
3. The Company is a "rural telephone company" as defined in 47 U.S.C. §153 (37);
4. The Company is eligible for disbursements from the federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"); and
5. The Company will utilize its USF disbursements received in 2005 only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which it is intended.

Signature:

Levoy Knowles

Date:

9/7/04

Print Name:

Levoy Knowles

Title:

CEO

State of

Tennessee

County of

Warren

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Notary in and for the State of Tennessee,

on this day personally appeared Levoy Knowles, known to me to be the Declarant, who, being duly sworn, executed the foregoing instrument.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2004.

My Commission expires

April 29, 2007

Clara P. Byars  
Notary Public

(sea.)

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TELEPHONE CO-OP, INC.

TELEPHONE: (931) 668-4131 • WEBSITE: [www.blomand.net](http://www.blomand.net)  
311 North Chancery Street • P. O. Box 670 • McMinnville, Tennessee 37111-0670

September 7, 2004

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45  
Section 254(e) Self-Certification of  
Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Attached hereto is a sworn affidavit of Levoy Knowles, certifying that Ben Lomand Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the "Company") is in compliance with the requirements of Section 254(e) and the requirements established by the Commission in *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256, FCC 01-157, released May 23, 2001 ("Order") and codified at 47 C.F.R. §54.314. Because the Company is not subject to the jurisdiction of a State, the Company makes this certification directly to the FCC as provided for in paragraph 189 of the Order and 47 C.F.R. §54.314(b).

A copy of this Certification is also being filed this day with the Universal Service Administration Company at its Washington, D.C., offices.

Please acknowledge receipt on the duplicate "stamp and return" document attached for this purpose. All correspondence and inquiries concerning this filing should be addressed to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Levoy Knowles  
CEO

cc: Ms. Irene Flannery, Universal Service Administration Company